

## Sioux Empire Spectacular 2011 Participants



Created in 1970 out of a drum and bell corps, Blue Devils hold the record for the most Drum Corps International World Championship titles, winning 11 times since 1976. Since then, the corps has placed out of the top three only five times, and even then never finished out of the top five. The Blue Devils organization sponsors three drum corps, three winter guards, a world-class twirling program, a music school and a wind symphony, serving more than 500 youth each year.



Originally founded in 1956 as the Rockford Rangers, the corps' name was quickly changed after staff members heard the popular Leroy Anderson song, "The Phantom Regiment". The corps has been a Drum Corps International World Championship Division I finalist every year since 1974 and won World Championships in 1996 & 2008.



Founded as a parade corps in 1958, Blue Knights has been a Drum Corps International World Championship finalist many times. The corps is known for its often dark-sounding musical programs and strong use of body movement in their visual offerings. The Blue Knights organization also offers a winter brass ensemble that performs throughout the Denver area, two competitive indoor marching percussion ensembles and "Stampede", the official drum line of the NFL's Denver Broncos.



The Glassmen were founded in 1961 as the Maumee Suns, a parade corps. After changing the corps' name to the Glass City Optimists to honor its new hometown of Toledo, the "Glass Capital of the World", the corps adopted its current name in 1971. Glassmen hold the distinction of being the only unit in Drum Corps International history to have improved its placement 10 years in a row, from 31st to 8th place in 1995. In 1993, the corps broke into the Drum Corps International World Championship Finals for the first time.



Boston Crusaders was founded in 1940 and is the third-oldest drum and bugle corps in the United States. Originally named Most Precious Blood Crusaders, the corps has been a Drum Corps International World Championship finalist every year since 1999. For many years, the corps ended each year's show with "Conquest" (from the film, "Captain from Castile") and since has hidden snippets of this signature melody in their musical program.



The Cascades organization was formed in 1957 as the Greenwood Boys Club Corps, becoming the Seattle Thunderbirds the next year. A split in 1966 saw many members join the new Cascade Cadets, which changed its name to Seattle Cascades in 1970. The corps won the Drum Corps International Division III World Championship title in 2000, and then doubled its size to compete in Division II in 2001. In 2002, they became the first Pacific Northwest corps to become a Division I finalist.